

STATE OF IOWA

CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR PATTY JUDGE, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION JUDY A. JEFFREY, DIRECTOR

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Iowa Enrollment Figures Released for 2009-2010 School Year

Overall Enrollment in K-12 Drops 0.59 Percent

DES MOINES, Iowa – Enrollment in Iowa's public schools saw a slight decline for the current school year, according to the official report released today by the Iowa Department of Education, with a total of 474,227 K-12 students attending public schools across the state.

This year's report is the first to use a new process to collect certified enrollment through the state's data collection system. This new process provides a more precise count of individual students and district enrollment.

The total certified enrollment count for lowa's public school districts shows a decline of 2,792 students, or about 0.59 percent, compared to last year. Public school district enrollment in lowa peaked in 1972-1973 at 645,000 students. This year is the 13th consecutive year of declining enrollment.

However, while 234 — or nearly two-thirds — of Iowa's 361 school districts reported a decrease in certified enrollment, several districts in the Greater Des Moines area and the Cedar Rapids-Iowa City corridor have seen double-digit growth in recent years.

A total of 124, or 34 percent, of districts reported an increase in enrollment, with three districts in the state reporting no change at all.

The districts reporting the largest increases over the past five years are:

Percent Increase of Students*

School District	2005 Enrollment	2009 Enrollment	Percent of Increase
WAUKEE	4,528	6,249	38%
NORTH POLK	1,048	1,242	19%
ANKENY	7,106	8,343	17%
DALLAS CENTER-GRIMES	1,612	1,892	17%
BONDURANT-FARRAR	1,075	1,261	17%

Number Increase of Students*

School District	2005 Enrollment	2009 Enrollment	# of Students
WAUKEE	4,528	6,249	1,721
ANKENY	7,106	8,343	1,237
IOWA CITY	11,063	11,903	840
LINN-MAR	5,780	6,601	821
JOHNSTON	5,186	5,972	786

The public school districts with the largest decreases over the past five years are:

Percent Decrease of Students*

School District	2005	2009	Percent of
	Enrollment	Enrollment	Decrease
RICEVILLE	396	284	-28%
SEYMOUR	324	235	-28%
MELCHER-DALLAS	415	317	-24%
FARRAGUT	307	248	-19%
ORIENT-MACKSBURG	263	212	-19%

Number Decrease of Students*

School District	2005	2009	# of
	Enrollment	Enrollment	Students
CEDAR RAPIDS	17,754	16,930	-826
DAVENPORT	16,704	16,075	-629
DES MOINES	31,549	30,954	-595
OTTUMWA	4,860	4,579	-281
FAIRFIELD	2,026	1,753	-273

* The districts reported are those that have operated with grades kindergarten through 12 over the five-year period from 2005 through 2009; districts that merged, consolidated or share whole grades are not included.

Under lowa law, certified enrollment is used in the formula that determines state funding for public school districts. It is based on the number of students that reside in each school district. It also includes the "weighting" or the additional funding for each student in specific programs, such as students attending post-secondary options while still in high school or students needing assistance in learning the English language. Certified enrollment count is taken on the first day of October every year and official numbers are confirmed by the lowa Department of Education.

The full certified enrollment count report may be found on the lowa Department of Education website at www.iowa.gov/educate (click on the "A-Z Index," then "Certified Enrollment, Public Districts," then scroll down to 2009-10 Certified Enrollment Summary by District).

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The lowa Department of Education works with the State of Iowa Board of Education to provide oversight, supervision and support for the state education system, which includes public elementary and secondary schools, nonpublic schools that receive state accreditation, area education agencies, community colleges and teacher preparation programs. The department is committed to high levels of learning, achievement and performance for all students, so they will become successful members of their community and the workforce.